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LB 117

cover what Senator Aguilar is bringing to us. You all don't care about the way the statutes read; I do. So we just have to battle these things out and see who the winner is. Now, Senator Bourne knows that I don't like the direction the bill is going, but on General File I didn't offer a lot of amendments. He didn't even have to come close to talking about invoking cloture. I had never said I was going to do everything I could to stop the bill, but as it gets cluttered up my whole attitude changes. What Senator Aguilar is offering as an amendment to this bill is a proposition that I would have forced him to take to cloture in order to clutter the child abuse statutes. What exists now in that statute are broad categories to give direction and guidance, to give the types of broad conduct which would constitute endangering the child, but there is no attempt to list every conceivable inappropriate set of circumstances that can endanger the child. When the terms "cruelly confined or cruelly punished" appear as subsection (b) of Section 28-707, there are no small Roman numerals listed under there to say in a closed cabinet, in a cold basement, in a facility lacking hot and cold running water. Those things are not mentioned because you're giving broad categories. You don't have to mention cocaine...I meant methamphetamine processing or cooking any more than you have to say leaving kettles of boiling water or boiling oil on a stove which a child can reach and pull down on himself or herself. You don't have to do that. The language has a catchall which covers all such things as that. If this statute had been constructed with the purpose of listing...

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...those things that constitute child abuse, whatever is not listed could not be deemed child abuse. But it is not that kind of listing, it is not that kind of statute. So we don't need to clutter it with the fad of the day. Methamphetamine is the fad of the day. Add it to the bill if you want to and, after everybody else gets through with their amendments, I'm going to come back and I'm going to try to strike it. And I may simply be not voting so that, if you add it, I can move to reconsider it and get my time out of this bill. Even though there's a part of it that I have questions about, and it's one of the divisions that we may get to, I have